



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Town of Arlington

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Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

7:30pm

Second Floor Conference Room

Senior Center

Board Members in Attendance: Dr. Carole Allen (Chair), Mr. Gregory Leonardos, Mark Fingerle

Staff in Attendance: Christine Connolly, (Director of Public Health), Denise Boucher (Health Compliance Officer)

- I. Meeting Minutes from the March 10, 2004 meeting were accepted as written.
- II. Christine Connolly presented a final draft of the amended **Town of Arlington, Board of Health Rules and Regulations Restricting Smoking and Distribution of Tobacco and Tobacco Products Within the Town of Arlington** with addition of the public libraries in the smoke free entrance-way Section 3.0 F. The Board unanimously voted to adopt the amended regulations making the entrances and exits of public libraries smoke-free.
- III. Christine Connolly reported to the Board that an unlicensed woman was practicing massage therapy at the International Massage Therapy Center located at Fitness First, operated by Andrei Popondupolo. Mr. Popondupolo was present as well as the owner of Fitness First, Larry Cronin. Mr. Popondupolo stated that Irina had worked in the establishment performing hot rock therapy only and did not perform massage therapy. Ms. Connolly stated that the definition of Massage Therapy according to the Board of Health regulations is the manipulation of soft tissue to stimulate circulation, and according to this definition, hot rock therapy is a massage therapy and is regulated by the Board of Health. The Board voted to place IMTC on probation for one-year and any further violations to the Massage Therapy Regulations would result in revocation of a permit to operate an establishment within the Town of Arlington.

- IV. Julie Supple and Gerry Taber from Warren Realty, representatives for the landlord were present at the hearing. Julie Supple stated that the tenant had complained of a leaky roof, so they hired a contractor to look at the roof and to look at the window to see if there were any problems with the structure. No problems were noticed at that time by the contractor and maintenance worker, but a humidifier was noticed in the corner of the room where the tenants were having problems. Ms. Supple stated that on December 20, 2003, the tenant then called the emergency maintenance line to complain about leaks and when a maintenance person went to inspect, there was not a problem, she then stated the tenant again called on January 17, 2004 and upon maintenance inspection, the roof was dry and there were not problems found. On April 15, 2004 after receiving the Board of Health inspection notice, Ms. Supple stated that they hired a cleaning company to clean the window and bedroom area and to treat and kill the mold. The windows were then re-caulked by maintenance and the tenant removed the humidifier. Ms. Supple stated that she would like to go on record as being a good landlord and that she did respond timely to the issues that were brought to her attention and that she tries her best to be a good landlord. Ms. Boucher stated that it was entirely possible that the humidifier in the corner, which was not noticed at the time of the Board of Health inspection, was the cause of the problem. The problem had been resolved and there was no further action necessary to be taken at that time.
- V. Christine Connolly stated that in late March she had received an application from a woman wishing to practice massage therapy who had falsified all of the documents submitted to the Board of Health. Upon consulting with other communities within the state and with practitioners in the Town of Arlington, Ms. Connolly stated that other communities are starting to move towards requiring a National Certification or a professional liability insurance, both of which require the most stringent standards of practice which would prevent the Board from having to distinguish between authentic and falsified documents. Ms. Connolly stated that she will consult further with the group of practitioners that worked with the department in 2002 to change the massage regulations. Mr. Popuondopolo stated that requiring a National Certification exam will prevent practitioners with English as a second language from becoming certified.
- VI. Ms. Connolly reported that the Mass Department of Public Health put out a fresh water fish consumption advisory on Spy Pond to warn residents of high levels of DDT derivatives and Chlordane in carp caught in Spy Pond. A number of types of fish were caught in the pond and were tested for toxins and chemicals from PCBs to mercury.
- VII. Christine Connolly reported that the Emergency Planning was still underway and staff had begun placing orders for equipment.

Adjourn